

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 220647

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 /017 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:JSNYDER

11/8/73 EXT 21530

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:GTWOHIE

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O 090115Z NOV 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL RIYADH IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 242

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 220647 SENT ACTION CAIRO, EC BRUSSELS,
GENEVA, OECD PARIS INFO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS, XMT KAMPALA
DATED 8 NOV 1973:

QTE

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TOSEC 242, TOECO 13 - ZFF5 TEHRAN ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, XH, UR, CH

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION REQUESTS HOUSE POSTPONE ACTION
ON TRADE BILL.

FOR UNDERSECRETARY CASEY, OECD PARIS

FOR AMBASSADOR EBERLE, BRUSSELS

FOR CSCE DELEGATION, GENEVA

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PAGE 02 STATE 220647

1. PRESIDENT TODAY ASKED HOUSE SPEAKER ALBERT TO POSTPONE

HOUSE ACTION ON TRADE BILL WHICH HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION ON FLOOR NEXT WEEK. POSTS MAY DRAW ON FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IN RESPONSE TO ANY INQUIRIES.

2. BEGIN GUIDANCE. PRESIDENT'S ACTION WAS TAKEN WITH RELUCTANCE. THE ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TO REGARD TRADE BILL AS AN ESSENTIAL STEP IN THE LARGER PROCESS OF CREATING A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM THAT CAN MEET THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF THE COMING DECADE.

3. PRESIDENT FELT COMPELLED TO ASK THAT BILL BE TEMPORARILY SET ASIDE AT THIS TIME WHEN INTENSIVE AND DELICATE DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY LOOKING TOWARD A DURABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. CONCERN WAS THAT DEBATE OVER MFN TITLE WITH ITS PROPOSED AMENDMENT COULD JEOPARDIZE THE SUCCESS OF THOSE CRUCIAL NEGOTIATIONS.

4. WE ARE CONFIDENT OUR MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS WILL UNDERSTAND AND WILL ACCEPT DELAY IN GOING FORWARD WITH TRADE BILL SINCE THEIR STAKE IN ACHIEVING DURABLE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS NO LESS THAN OURS.

5. POSTS SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT DELAY DOES NOT ALTER THE FIRM US COMMITMENT TO PURSUE A NEW ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. MOREOVER, IT SHOULD NOT PREVENT PREPARATIONS FOR THOSE TALKS FROM GOING FORWARD. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE MOMENTUM SHOULD NOT BE LOST. END GUIDANCE.

6. WIRE SERVICES REPORT SPEAKER CARL ALBERT AGREES TO PRESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT. ACTING WAYS AND MEANS CHAIRMAN ULLMAN ISSUED STATEMENT AGREEING TO PRESIDENT'S REQUEST "UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES" AND EXPRESSED HIS STRONG HOPE CONGRESS WILL GET BACK TO TRADE BILL AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

7. EMBASSIES OF MAJOR US TRADING PARTNERS AND EC REP HERE ARE BEING INFORMED OF RATIONALE BEHIND POSTPONEMENT REQUEST. RUSH
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PAGE 03 STATE 220647

UNQTE RUSH

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